

Findley Elementary School

PTO Meeting Minutes

April 15, 2014

Library, 7:00pm

I. Call to Order

- A. Leslie Hmura and Angie Mitlehner, Co-Presidents

II. Approval of Minutes

March 2014 minutes approved with corrections to spelling of names in Section III and Section IV, and a change to the bond canvassing date in Section X (now April 26th and May 10th).

III. Presentation of Thank Yous – Doaa Elhaggan, Vice President

- **Book Fair** - Amber Freschweiler & Jeffa Doeleman
- **Soc Hop** - Dana Rodman
- **Passport Club** - Marianne Higgins
- **Website Maintenance** - Laura Rich

IV. Book Fair – Amber Ferschweiler

- A. The Scholastic Book Fair generated sales of \$15,156; Findley keeps just under \$4,000 of that total, which will fund library programs such as author visits.
- B. Thank you to Findley families for shopping at the fair!

V. Budget Report – Amber Ferschweiler, Treasurer

- A. April 2014 Budget
 - a. Income from Dragon Dash Company Matching and Scrip sales both exceeded expectations.
 - b. Teachers still have classroom funds available. Reminders will be sent to teachers with a cutoff date of May 15th to use remaining funds. For questions on balance, contact Amber Ferschweiler (amber.fer@frontier.com).
- B. Proposed 2014-2015 School Year Budget
 - a. Amber is working with committee leads to understand budget needs for next year.
 - b. PTO expects increased costs in 2014-2015 school year. These areas are outlined in the Special Needs section of the budget.
 - i. Findley is moving from Primary Years Program (PYP) exploration into the candidacy phase. Increased PYP units will require additional materials and staff training.
 - 1. The Education Grant Fund in the 2014 budget has been moved to PYP Materials and Supplies.

- ii. The question marks on Technology, Curriculum Development, and Grounds Improvement are placeholders for unspecified, but *large*, numbers.
 - 1. These items stem from parents' concerns that Findley is lagging behind other schools in these areas.
 - 2. More concrete figures will be identified after a parent survey this month.
- iii. Parents who have concerns about or who support the proposed increase in school budget should be present at the May PTO meeting; voting will take place.
- iv. The proposed bond (to be voted on in May) will not cover all these needs.
- c. Running Club was questioned as a high budget item.
 - i. Suggestion for Nicole Gulick or Tami Syverson to attend a future meeting and speak to the requested budget.
 - ii. Suggestions for fundraising to offset costs were made.
- d. Clothes Closet
 - i. Findley's \$500 monetary donation is in the budget to support purchases of new items.
 - ii. Over 300 pairs of new socks were donated through the Findley Soc Hop.
- e. Pass-Through events are not expected to make income. In the event that they do, the PTO works with the event committee to direct funds.

VI. 2014-2015 Calendar - Angie Mitlehner, Co-President

- A. A change to the PTO meeting schedule was highlighted.
 - a. Based on surveys, the meeting times will alternate between 2pm and 7pm, with presentations and voting events targeted for the 7pm meetings.
 - b. 2pm meetings are October, January, March, and June; there is no meeting in December.
- B. The 2014-2015 school year events are a tentative schedule, pending additional items that will be finalized by the district.

VI. School Bond – Kathleen Skidmore, Principal

- A. Upcoming Bond (8-year bond) is scheduled for May 2014. The bond includes planned improvements related to Technology, Capacity, and Building Improvements (Modernization).
- B. This new bond will replace an expiring bond at the same \$2.11 cost level. A 51% vote in favor will pass the bond.
 - 1. If the bond passes, it will fund the construction of a new elementary, middle, and high school in the Beaverton School District.
 - a. For details on modernization, technology, and new capacity projects for the 2014 bond, see <https://www.beaverton.k12.or.us/district/bond-measure-information>
 - i. Addition of new schools will bring boundary changes at the elementary, middle, and high school levels.

- ii. The goal in the construction of these new buildings is to reduce or prevent crowding in the classrooms.
 - b. Anticipated changes to Findley may include an extended or second covered playground area.
2. If the bond fails, construction to correct safety issues (for example, a new roof for Sunset HS) must still go forward. This will negatively impact teachers, as money from the general fund (85% of which typically supports teacher and administration) will be used for the required safety improvements.
3. Neighborhood canvassing is scheduled for April 26th and May 10th. Bring your kids!

Special Notes:

This meeting was preceded by a 30-minute presentation on the Primary Years Program (PYP), given by PYP coordinator, Emily Pogue. Findley is concluding a year of PYP exploration and is proceeding into PYP candidacy next year. Additional PYP units will be added for a total of 3 in 2014-2015 (up to a maximum of 6 in the next ~3 years). As part of this program, Spanish instruction will be included as an additional special for grades K-5.

This meeting was followed by a meeting with the Findley Boy Scout leadership for 2014-2015. The Boy Scouts will take over Findley's School Beautification Days, which includes yard and garden projects on school grounds.